


Full Article: <http://www.gearinstitute.com/gear-test-results/item/best-expedition-backpacks-of-2017>



One market trend that became apparent in the course of this test was the increasing specialization of backpack makers, into the two main groups of this test set—those backpacks intended for ultralight, long distance backpacking, and those more suited for mountaineering expeditions and the requisite short-distance hauling of heavy loads. The three backpacks that tried to straddle the middle ground between these camps (the [Osprey Aether AG 85](#), [The North Face Fovero 85](#), and the [Thule Guidepost 75](#)), all suffered in the final results. The mountaineering expedition end of the spectrum was anchored by the [Black Diamond Mission 75](#) and on the ultralight backpacking side of things, high scores were earned by the [Lowe Alpine Manaslu 65:75](#), the [Mountain Hardwear Ozonic 70 Outdry](#), and the [Gregory Stout 75](#).

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91

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IN CLASS

2017

LOWE ALPINE MANASLU 65:75

The Lowe Alpine Manaslu 65:75 is a good value multi-day or weekender backpack.

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90

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BLACK DIAMOND MISSION 75

The Black Diamond Mission 75 is a multi-day expedition pack that can handle a variety of conditions.

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89

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MOUNTAIN HARDWEAR OZONIC 70

The Mountain Hardwear Ozonic 70 Outdry is a water resistant multi-day backpack.

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89

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GREGORY STOUT 75

The Gregory Stout 75 is an ultralight multi-day backpack.

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87

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OSPREY AETHER 85

The Osprey Aether 85 is a multi-day and expandable expedition backpack.

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84

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THULE GUIDEPOST 75

The Thule Guidepost 75 is a heavy and pricy multi-day backpack.

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77

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THE NORTH FACE FOVERO 85

The North Face Fovero 85 is a heavy expedition backpack.

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